

# CAMPAIGNS REACH PEAK; POLLS READIED FOR TOMORROW'S VOTE

## Polls Open at 7 a.m. Tuesday

An estimated 8000 to 10,000 voters will cast ballots tomorrow that will decide on the City Council to govern policy for the city during the next two years and to stamp their approval or disapproval on nine proposed charter amendments.

### City Dads to Hold Session Wednesday

Regardless of the outcome of tomorrow's election, the city fathers must go on, so the City Council will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday for its regular weekly meeting. Sitting on the Council will be the present members, and they have a full agenda of matters ranging from a request from the National Army for permission to conduct a salvage drive to the first reading of a proposed grading and excavation ordinance.

### Consul General of Israel Due Wednesday

Dr. Abraham Biran, consul general for Israel to the western states, will be featured speaker here Wednesday night at a meeting to celebrate Israel Independence Day and the launching of the local United Jewish Welfare Fund drive. Dr. Biran will discuss current Israel problems in the Middle East crisis. About 100 volunteer fund drive leaders are expected to hear his address at the Flims, according to Mrs. Edward J. Schwartz, drive chairman for the Continental Valley and South Bay division. Also on hand will be Mrs. Schwartz' father, Sam Levy, pioneer Torrance merchant and chairman of the southern section, Greater Los Angeles Area.

### New Building Completed at Local Plant

Another project was completed last week in the expansion program under way at Torrance Douglas when the maintenance building extension was occupied. It will provide 18,000 square feet of covered floor space so that maintenance can more efficiently service the production departments. The crowded condition of the maintenance building had forced much vital work outside. Carpenters, painters, welders, sheet metal and steel workers had worked for many months under adverse conditions. Of great importance is the fact that the extension will eliminate double handling. The extension is constructed of steel and brick. It is two hundred feet long and ninety feet wide.

### SLO-PITCH MEETING SET THURSDAY NIGHT

Slo-pitch softball team managers who plan to enter a team in Recreation League play during the coming season are invited to attend an organizational meeting to be held in the recreation office Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

### Shidler Endorsed for Superior Court by Committee of Lawyers

A committee of lawyers, many of whom have represented cases before him, has announced its support of Judge John A. Shidler for election to Superior Court Office No. 28, vacated recently by the retirement of Judge George Bullock. Included on the list are City Attorney James M. Hall, former City Prosecutor Boris S. Woolley, and Attorneys Donald Armstrong, Walter N. Anderson, William M. MacFarland, Charlton A. Newborn, and Auten Bush among others. "While to many, a judgeship is a sinecure or a reward for political service in other fields, to Judge Shidler a judicial office is a profession requiring constant study and work," a letter from the committee to fellow lawyers stated last week. Judge Shidler is now Judge of the South Bay Municipal Court in Redondo Beach. He lives at 317 Camino de las Colinas with his wife, Rosemary DuCamp Shidler and four daughters. He practiced law in Torrance before assignment to the bench nearly 10 years ago.

A record slate of candidates will face voters in the Council race tomorrow—16 names will appear on the ballot. Only 14 of the candidates appear to be serious about seeking election.

In keeping with its 40-year tradition, the HERALD phones will be manned tomorrow night after the polls have closed to relay latest election information to interested residents. To check on the returns as they are reported in the precincts, call FA 8-4000.

One, G. S. Evans, has asked that his support be placed elsewhere because he does not want to jeopardize the pension he now receives as a retired Torrance police officer. Another, Walter G. Ryan, has turned out to be a "phantom" candidate who has made no apparent effort to make himself known to the public. Letters from the HERALD have gone unanswered, and efforts of HERALD reporters to contact him have failed. He has nailed up no posters, sent out no literature, nor placed any political advertising.

Leading contenders in tomorrow's contest are two tickets of three candidates each. Reported to be making heavy gains throughout the city during the closing hours of the campaign has been the three-man ticket headed by incumbent Councilman Nicholas O. Drale, who is seeking his third four-year term on the city's governing board. Joined with Drale is Walter G. Garrabrant, active Hollywood Riviera civic leader and general contractor who built many of the finer homes in that section of Torrance. Third member of the team is Beverly B. Smith, pioneer Torrance resident and member of the city's Planning Commission for the past seven years. He served as chairman for six years.

Won Strong Support These three men have received the editorial endorsement of the HERALD and have won the support of a large segment of the city's leading businessmen and civic workers, including former Mayor Merwin M. Schwab. Making an energetic effort to edge out this team is another slate of three men headed by incumbent Victor E. Benstead Jr., who is seeking his second term on the Council. He has been joined by William E. King Jr., advertising salesman for an Inglewood newspaper, and Robert B. Jahn, who lists his occupation as builder. They are being endorsed by Mayor Isen and have been publicly labeled "The Isen Ticket."

Strong independents include James E. Thompson, former Torrance police officer; Jack E. White, aircraft engineer and candidate twice before; and Gordon Lewis, a welder and union official. Polls will be open in 110 locations throughout the city tomorrow from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. (See page 2 for complete list of polling places). During that time, all bars and liquor stores will be closed.

Rules of play will be discussed, team application forms and entry fees will be accepted and re-arrangement of teams in the two existing leagues will be considered.

Enrollment in any of the four categories—dancing, vocal, instrumental, or novelty—is open to boys and girls of Torrance, Lomita, or Harbor City, according to Robinson. Enrollments may be made by contacting Chairman Robinson, President Stanford, or Charles Shepherd.

The Only Paper Blanketing All Sections of Torrance plus Lomita, Harbor City and Adjacent City and County Areas

# Torrance Herald

OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

Phone  
FA 8-4000

Published Monday and Thursday—  
Entered as second class matter Jan. 30, 1914, at postoffice, Torrance, California, under act of March 3, 1879.

42nd Year—No. 29

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, MONDAY, APRIL 9, 1956

CIRCULATION OFFICE FA 8-4004

16 PAGES

The HERALD Recommends (Sample Ballot)	
For MEMBER of the CITY COUNCIL	Vote for Three
VICTOR E. BENSTEAD, JR. Incumbent	
NICKOLAS O. DRALE Incumbent	X
FRANK W. BURK Furniture Salesman	
GEORGE W. DOWNING Dispatch Clerk	
GWILYM S. EVANS Retired	
THOMAS R. FAREN Student	
FRANK H. FROHNHOEFER Self Employed	X
W. A. GARRABRANT General Contractor	
ROBERT B. JAHN Builder	
WILLIAM E. KING, JR. Salesman	
THELMA C. LEDWIDGE Inventory Controller	
GORDON A. LEWIS Welder	
WALTER G. RYAN Mechanic	
BEVERLY B. SMITH Supt. Service Supply	X
J. E. (JIM) THOMPSON Surveyor's Assistant	
JACK E. WHITE Engineer	

The HERALD also recommends a "Yes" vote on Charter Amendments 1 through 8, and a "No" vote on No. 9.

### 1956 Building Permits Reach \$14,602,415

It was the same song with two choruses last month as Torrance construction permits continued to set a record-breaking pace. Permits for new construction representing a total valuation of \$2,937,828 were issued by the city's Building Department, according to Walter G. Bradford. The permits brought the 1956 total to a record \$14,602,415. At the same time last year the city had issued only \$8,650,928 in permits. Most of the new construction started in March was initiated by subdividers, Bradford reported.

### Teen Aged Hurt in Fall From Auto

Two teen agers were injured Friday night in freak accident at Torrance and Hawthorne Bldvs., according to police reports. Sandra Homer, 16, of Lawndale, and Loy Horn, 18, of Redondo, reportedly suffered minor hurts when they fell out of the right front door of a car that was turning left from Torrance Blvd. onto Hawthorne Blvd. Reports indicate the car was driven by Albert H. King, of Redondo. Authorities said the door apparently gave way when the car took the turn. Miss Homer was sitting on the Horn boy's lap at the time of the accident, police said. Velton L. Eldred, 22, of Long Beach, received injuries Thursday afternoon when cars driven by him and Isaac W. Yarborough, 35, of Gardena, collided at Western Ave. and 207th St. Eldred was not hospitalized, according to reports.



HERE TOMORROW NIGHT... Clara Mae Turner, nationally recognized contralto of the Metropolitan and San Francisco Opera companies, will sing here tomorrow night with the Torrance Area Youth Band at the Civic Auditorium. This is the third of a series of concerts sponsored by the Youth Band featuring international musical personalities in joint concert with the band.

### Exchange Club In Talent Hunt

A pair of Walteria lassies became the first contestants as entries were opened last week end for the annual Torrance Exchange Club's "Search for Talent Contest," which seeks outstanding amateur talent.

In announcing the contest, President W. Stanford said that through the efforts of the local club members an outstanding contestant, or act will be selected to represent the club in two divisions, juniors up to 14 years of age and seniors from 14 through high school. First to sign up in the junior division was Reta Hancock, 23531 Madison Court, a singer and tap dancer who competed last year.

First in the senior division was Michelle Lematte, 16, 24283 Madison St., a classic ballerina who arrived in Torrance about six weeks ago from her native France. E. J. Robinson, chairman of the 1956 "Search for Talent Contest" announced the signing of the two entries, and said that the contest was open to contestants from Lomita and Harbor City as well as Torrance. Junior and senior division winners will be sent to the California State Exchange Club's convention in Santa Barbara in June where finals will be held.

Local deadline for entries is May 12. Robinson said, and eliminations here will be held May 18. District finals to choose the Santa Barbara entries will be held in Westchester May 22.

Enrollment in any of the four categories—dancing, vocal, instrumental, or novelty—is open to boys and girls of Torrance, Lomita, or Harbor City, according to Robinson. Enrollments may be made by contacting Chairman Robinson, President Stanford, or Charles Shepherd.

### Three Measles Cases Reported in Torrance

Three cases of measles topped all other diseases in the city for the week ending March 31, according to statistics released by the Los Angeles County Health Dept. One case each was recorded of mumps, scarlet fever and tuberculosis in Torrance.

### New Committee On Parks Asked

The question on what the city should do in the way of a central park and neighborhood park sites will receive the attention of still another committee if the recommendations of the Planning Commission are approved by the City Council next week.

The recommendation to set up a new committee, composed of two Planning Commission members, two Recreation Commissioners, and one member each from the Industries Tax Committee, and Coordinating Council was approved by the planners here Wednesday night. A seventh member to represent organized labor was added at the last minute at the insistence of Commissioner Thirvin Fleetwood.

The committee recommendation came after representatives of industry, Chamber of Commerce, the Planning Commission and the Recreation Commission engaged in a spirited discussion over a proposal to condemn 90 acres of industrial property north of the new civic center site for park purposes. The proposal to condemn the 90 acres was recommended to the Council by the Recreation Commission following its March 7 meeting at which Mayor Isen and Council Candidate Robert Jahn appeared to outline their plan for making a huge central park out of the expensive industrial property.

Rushed to Council The recommendation was rushed before the Council's next meeting on the recommendation of the mayor, but there it met with opposition from Blount, Drale, and Schwab. At that time an independent committee composed of H. R. Black of North Torrance, George Bradford of downtown Torrance, and Robert Wagner of Walteria was named to study park needs and work with the Recreation Commission on a plan to provide adequate park sites for Torrance. The committee recommended last week would make the third assigned to the task if approved by the Council.

Speaking against the con-

### Car Club Offers Baby Sitters, Rides to Polls

Members of the Torrance Police Car Club Assn. will provide baby sitting and transportation for persons wishing to go to the polls tomorrow, it was announced Saturday by Officers H. B. Ingram and A. L. Jackson, director and advisor to the group. An effort to have about 20 of the car clubbers on hand to answer requests for baby sitters or transportation or for both is being made, the officers said.

The CIO Hall at 1316 Border Ave. will serve as headquarters for the operation. It will be in effect from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m., the hours the polls are open here tomorrow.

Voters wishing to take advantage of the offer are being asked to call the hall at FA 8-4226, the police department at FA 8-3156, or the City Hall at FA 8-5316. Johnny Holmes, secretary of the Car Club Assn., who originated the idea, is coordinating the program. The service will be available to voters in any section of the city.

### State Taxes Due in Week

A reminder to California taxpayers that state income tax returns must be filed on or before Monday, April 16, was issued today by Robert C. Kirkwood, chairman of the Franchise Tax Board.

"All single individuals who earned \$2000 or more and all married couples with combined incomes of \$3500 or more must file 1955 state income tax returns," said Kirkwood. "Unless they have obtained an extension, those filing after April 16 must pay a delinquent penalty."

Kirkwood pointed out that the Tax Board wants to cooperate with taxpayers to ease the filing of returns. Free assistance with filling out income tax forms may be obtained at the state income tax office.



FIRST TO SIGN... Getting the Torrance Exchange Club's annual amateur talent contest off to a roaring start are Reta Hancock, 7, and Michelle Lematte, 16, shown here with Chairman E. J. Robinson. The two hopefuls were the first to sign up for the May 16 contest.

### College Growth Cited to Rotary

The record growth of El Camino College to 2168 full course students and more than 4000 part-time and adult attendants was cited before the Torrance Rotary Club Thursday evening by Dr. William Harless, director of education for the college. Dr. Harless was introduced by Charles V. Jones, former member of the Board of Trustees of the school and one of the many Torrance men and women who have taken an active part in the welfare of the thriving institution since its inception. El Camino offers a full two year course.